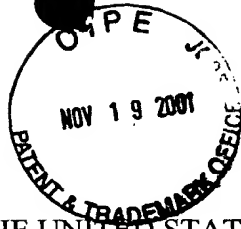


210352US0X



HS/A  
Elliott  
3-2452

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

RYUICHIRO KURANE, et al. : GROUP:  
SERIAL NO: 09/891,517 : EXAMINER:  
FILED: JUNE 27, 2001 :

FOR: NOVEL NUCLEIC ACID PROBES,  
METHOD FOR DETERMINING  
CONCENTRATIONS OF NUCLEIC  
ACID BY USING THE PROBES,  
AND METHOD FOR ANALYZING  
DATA OBTAINED BY THE METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Correspondence dated July 17, 2001, Applicants submit herewith a substitute Abstract of the Disclosure, a substitute specification, a substitute Sequence Listing, and a corresponding computer-readable Sequence Listing. Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please replace the original abstract at page 197 with the substitute abstract attached hereto.

09891517 11901